

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Education and Children's Services Committee
<b>DATE</b>	8 November 2022
<b>EXEMPT</b>	No
<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b>	No
<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	School Estate Plan 2022 – Implementation Plan
<b>REPORT NUMBER</b>	RES/22/242
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Steve Whyte
<b>CHIEF OFFICER</b>	Stephen Booth
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	Andrew Jones
<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	1.1.1, 1.1.5, 1.3

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report presents the draft timeline for implementing the recommended actions from the School Estate Plan, as agreed by the Education Operational Delivery Committee on 8 September 2022.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Instructs the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord to implement the School Estate Plan in accordance with the timeline presented at Appendix 1 of this report.

### 3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 At its meeting of 8 September 2022, the Education Operational Delivery Committee approved the Council's School Estate Plan, and instructed the Chief Officer, Corporate Landlord to "present a delivery plan for implementing the agreed actions in this report to the next meeting of the Education and Children's Services Committee." This report seeks to fulfil that instruction.
- 3.2 The approved School Estate Plan includes 38 separate instructions, many of which will require detailed feasibility studies, stakeholder engagement activity, and further reports to be compiled for further consideration by committee. These individual instructions will therefore become projects in their own right, and it is anticipated that it will take approximately two years to complete all of the projects included within the Plan.
- 3.3 The implementation plan presented at Appendix 1 of this report sets out the order of priority in which the projects will be carried out, and provides an indicative timeline for the activities which require to be undertaken in order to progress those projects. The plan is presented in two formats for ease of reading: Appendix 1A shows the list of projects and their likely timescales only, whilst Appendix 1B presents the same list of projects as a full Gantt chart, to provide an overview of all of the activity which will be taking place at any one time.

- 3.4 The projects have been prioritised in the implementation plan according to the level of urgency in which the relevant changes to the school estate require to be made, whilst also considering the complexity of each project and the likely time required to fully meet the committee's instructions.
- 3.5 Where feasibility studies are to be carried out to identify options for making improvements to existing buildings, these studies will include an assessment of the accessibility of the building, and any opportunities for improving levels of accessibility will be incorporated into the identified options as appropriate.
- 3.6 The timescales presented in the plan represent officers' best estimates of the time which will be required to undertake each project, and the individual workstreams contained within them. These may be subject to change, as a range of factors may influence the amount of time required, as the work progresses.
- 3.7 An online consultation on the School Estate Plan, aimed at children and young people, was launched in September 2022, and this will remain open until 31 December 2022. The findings from this consultation will be reported to the Committee alongside future updates on progress with the implementation of the Plan. The online consultation can be found here: <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/aberdeen-city-council-school-estate-plan>

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The cost of carrying out the feasibility studies and other actions detailed within the implementation plan will be met through the Contingency budget within the reprofiled General Fund Capital Programme.

#### **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Section 1 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 provides that it shall be the duty of every education authority to secure that there is made for their area adequate and efficient provision of school education.
- 5.2 Section 17 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 provides that it shall be the duty of an education authority in the performance of their functions under sections 1 to 6 of the Act, to provide for their area, sufficient accommodation in public schools and other educational establishments under their management to enable them to perform their said functions. In addition, an education authority shall maintain and keep efficient every public school, and other educational establishment under their management, and shall from time to time provide such additional accommodation as may be necessary to enable them to perform their functions under the Act and may, provide, alter, improve, enlarge, equip and maintain schools and other educational establishments within their area.
- 5.3 The identified priorities for developing the school estate outlined in the draft implementation plan are in fulfilment of the above duties incumbent upon the Education Authority.

5.4 A proposal to make changes to a school, including closing, relocating or opening a school, is subject to consultation in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. Formal consultations will require to be carried out for any proposals to make these types of changes to schools, and consideration of this has been given in the recommendations arising from the School Estate Plan, and in the activities and timescales set out within the implementation plan.

## 6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no environmental implications arising from the recommendation within this report.

## 7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H)  *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
<b>Strategic Risk</b>	No significant risks identified			
<b>Compliance</b>	(1) Failure to plan effectively for the school estate, leading to the Council being unable to fulfil its duty to make adequate and efficient provision  (2) Failure to consult formally with stakeholders on changes to schools would be in breach of legislation	(1) The School Estate Plan and implementation plan set out priorities for the school estate and proposals for continually monitoring and updating plans to ensure adequate and efficient provision is maintained  (2) Any proposed changes to schools arising from the School Estate Plan will incorporate full statutory consultation to ensure compliance with legislation	L	Yes
<b>Operational</b>	(1) Failure to engage and consult with communities on the future of the	(1) The School Estate Plan and implementation plan emphasise a renewed approach	M	Yes

	school estate which serves them, could lead to a breakdown in relationships with community members. Some proposals about the future of the school estate may not be popular with some stakeholders	which places community engagement and consultation at the centre		
<b>Financial</b>	No significant risks identified.			
<b>Reputational</b>	Failure to engage and consult with communities on the future of the school estate which serves them, could lead to reputational damage for the Council. Some proposals about the future of the school estate may not be popular with some stakeholders	The School Estate Plan and implementation plan emphasise a renewed approach which places community engagement and consultation at the centre	M	Yes
<b>Environment / Climate</b>	No significant risks identified.			

## 8. OUTCOMES

<u><b>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN</b></u>	
<b>Impact of Report</b>	
<b>Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement</b>	<p>This report supports the delivery of the following policy statements:</p> <p><u>A City of Opportunity</u></p> <p>Policy Statement 2 - Review and invest in our school estate, ensuring all of Aberdeen's schools are fit for the educational needs and the challenges</p>

	<p>of the 21st century. The report seeks Committee's approval of the School Estate Plan.</p> <p><u>A Prosperous City</u>  Policy Statement 8 - Seek to buy goods, services and food locally whenever possible, subject to complying with the law and public tendering requirements. Opportunities to do this will be considered for all Capital Projects.</p>
<p><b><u><a href="#">Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan</a></u></b></p>	
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	The proposals within this report support the delivery of Stretch Outcome 8 in the LOIP – Child friendly city where all decisions which impact children and young people will be informed by them by 2026. The School Estate Plan and implementation plan set out how all stakeholders including children and young people will be consulted on proposals to make changes to the school estate.
<b>Regional and City Strategies</b>	The School Estate Plan and implementation plan will support the delivery of the Council's Property and Estates Strategy (currently in draft).

## 9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
<b>Integrated Impact Assessment</b>	Full impact assessment not required
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>	Not required
<b>Other</b>	No other assessments required

## 10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Education Operational Delivery Committee, 8 September 2022: [Agenda Item 14: School Estate Plan 2022](#).

## 11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 Appendix 1 : School Estate Plan Implementation Plan

## 12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

<b>Name</b>	Andrew Jones
<b>Title</b>	Service Manager
<b>Email Address</b>	<a href="mailto:ajones@aberdeencity.gov.uk">ajones@aberdeencity.gov.uk</a>
<b>Tel</b>	07920 295364